Taro the Cow

Complete Digital Crochet Amigurumi Pattern

DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ONLY - NO PHYSICAL ITEM WILL BE SHIPPED



Skill level: Confident Beginner | US crochet terminology | Plush-yarn amigurumi

Designed for a soft, seated chibi cow with oversized head, pink muzzle, black-and-white patches, beige horns and a bobble tail.

1. Digital Download Notice

IMPORTANT
This product is a digital crochet pattern. It is not a finished amigurumi, toy, kit, or physical item. No physical item will be shipped. You must crochet, stuff, sew, and finish Taro yourself.

Pattern Snapshot

Item	Design target
Overall seated height, including horns	Approx. 23-26 cm / 9-10.25 in
Seated height, without horns	Approx. 20-22 cm / 7.9-8.7 in
Overall width, ear to ear	Approx. 18-21 cm / 7.1-8.3 in
Construction	Separate head, body, muzzle, ears, horns, limbs, spots and tail; sewn assembly
Primary stitch	Single crochet in continuous spiral rounds
Skill level	Confident Beginner - simple shaping, colour changes and assembly

How to Use This Pattern

Read the method, abbreviations, construction overview, and placement maps before beginning. Keep a stitch marker in the first stitch of every spiral round, count frequently, and pin every feature before sewing. Right and left are always described from Taro's point of view unless specifically noted otherwise.

2. Finished Measurements

Calculated design targets for the yarn, hook and tension described in this pattern.

Feature	Metric target	Imperial target
Overall seated height, incl. horns	23-26 cm	9-10.25 in
Overall width, ear to ear	18-21 cm	7.1-8.3 in
Head	12-14 cm wide x 10-12 cm high	4.7-5.5 x 3.9-4.7 in
Body	9-11 cm wide x 10-12 cm high	3.5-4.3 x 3.9-4.7 in
Muzzle	7-8.5 cm wide x 4-5 cm high	2.75-3.35 x 1.6-2 in
Each ear	5.5-6.5 cm long x 3.5-4.5 cm high	2.2-2.6 x 1.4-1.8 in
Each horn	4.5-5.5 cm long	1.8-2.2 in
Each arm	5.5-6.5 cm long	2.2-2.6 in
Each leg/hoof	6-7 cm long	2.4-2.75 in
Tail incl. black tip	8-10 cm long	3.1-3.9 in

SIZE NOTE
These are approximate design targets. A tighter fabric generally produces a smaller, firmer Taro; a looser fabric generally produces a larger, softer Taro. Do not stretch pieces to force a measurement.

3. Materials and Tools

Material	Recommended specification	Approx. amount
White yarn	#6 Super Bulky chenille/polyester plush yarn	120-150 g / 85-105 m
Black yarn	Same weight and fibre	55-75 g / 40-55 m
Pink yarn	Same weight and fibre	25-35 g / 18-25 m
Beige/tan yarn	Same weight and fibre	15-20 g / 10-14 m
Crochet hook	4.5 mm or size needed for dense fabric	1
Safety eyes	Black, approx. 18 mm	2
Stuffing	Polyester fibre filling	Approx. 100-140 g
Embroidery yarn	Black smooth yarn/thread for nostrils and eyebrow	Small amount

Also needed: tapestry needle, locking stitch markers, pins, scissors, measuring tape, and an optional row/round counter.

SAFETY
Safety eyes and other rigid or small components may not be suitable for children under 3 years old. For a non-rigid eye alternative, embroider the eyes securely with black yarn. Suitability of the finished handmade item for a child cannot be guaranteed by this digital pattern. Ensure all yarn tails are securely buried.

4. Gauge and Tension

Amigurumi should be worked with a firm, dense tension so that stuffing does not show between stitches. The fabric should bend without feeling board-stiff, but the gaps between stitches should remain closed after stuffing.

Gauge target	Hook	Method
Approx. 5 sc × 8 rounds = 5 × 5 cm / 2 × 2 in	4.5 mm	Single crochet, worked in continuous spiral rounds

- If your fabric is loose or stuffing is visible, try a 4.0 mm hook or tighten your tension slightly.
- If your fabric is extremely stiff and difficult to insert the hook into, try a 5.0 mm hook.
- Changing gauge changes both finished size and yarn usage; exact gauge does not guarantee an exact finished measurement.

5. Crochet Method and Terminology

- Terminology: US crochet terms throughout.
- Head, body, muzzle, cheeks, outer ears, inner-ear inserts, horns, arms, legs, body spots, tail stem and tail tip are worked in continuous spiral rounds unless stated otherwise. The muzzle, outer ears and inner-ear inserts begin by working around both sides of a foundation chain to form an oval.
- Place a locking stitch marker in the first stitch of every round and move it up after completing each round.
- For the head and body, keep the BOR at the centre back. The stitch directly opposite the BOR is treated as the centre front (CF) for placement.
- The black head patch is worked flat in rows. Turn after every row; the turning chain does not count as a stitch.
- Use standard yarn-over single crochet. Yarn-under single crochet may produce a smaller, squarer fabric and is not the intended default.
- Keep the finished/right side of all spiral pieces facing outward.
- When changing colour, complete the final yarn-over of the last stitch with the new colour. Cut the old colour unless the pattern specifically tells you to carry it.

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
MR	magic ring
ch	chain
sc	single crochet
inc	increase - work 2 sc in the same stitch
dec	invisible decrease - work the front loops of the next 2 stitches together as 1 sc
st / sts	stitch / stitches
rnd / rnds	round / rounds
row / rows	row / rows
rep	repeat
FO	fasten off
BOR	beginning of round
CF	centre front

6. Construction Overview

Taro is built from separate crocheted components. The head and body are stuffed firmly, the muzzle and limb ends are stuffed more lightly, and the ears, inner-ear inserts and flat spots remain unstuffed. The head opening remains accessible until the black crown patch and eyes are installed. The body is fully closed before the head is sewn on.

Piece	Qty	Colour	Stuffing / notes
Head	1	White	Firmly stuffed; black patch added before eyes
Head crown patch	1	Black	Flat, unstuffed
Muzzle	1	Pink	Lightly stuffed
Cheeks	2	Pink	Flat, unstuffed
Outer ears	2	Black	Flat, unstuffed
Inner-ear inserts	2	Pink	Flat, unstuffed
Horns	2	Beige	Lightly stuffed
Body	1	White	Firmly stuffed; keep base flattened
Body spots	2	Black	Flat, unstuffed; deliberately asymmetrical
Arms	2	White + black	Stuff white hand lightly; black shoulder very lightly
Legs	2	Black + white	Stuff hoof firmly, upper leg moderately
Tail	1	White	Leave unstuffed
Tail tip	1	Black	Lightly stuffed

Recommended Assembly Order

1. Complete the head through the patch and eye-installation stage; finish stuffing and close it.
2. Add muzzle, cheeks, nostrils and the single eyebrow.
3. Assemble and attach ears and horns to the head.
4. Complete and stuff the body, then sew on the two black body spots.
5. Join head and body, matching centre front and centre back.
6. Attach legs, then arms, checking seated balance after each pair.
7. Assemble the tail and tail tip; attach at the left-back body quadrant.
8. Complete the final symmetry, shaping and yarn-tail check.

ORIENTATION
Right and left are always from Taro's point of view. When Taro faces you, Taro's left appears on your right.

7. Complete Written Crochet Pattern - Head

A. Head - make 1 in white

Work in continuous spiral rounds from crown to lower head. Keep BOR at centre back. Place a separate marker at CF once the piece is wide enough to fold and identify the opposite point.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	6 sc in MR.	6
2	Inc in each st around.	12
3	(Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times.	18
4	(Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	24
5	(Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	30
6	(Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	36
7	(Sc in next 5 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	42
8	Sc in each st around.	42
9	Sc in each st around.	42
10	Sc in each st around.	42
11	Sc in each st around.	42
12	Sc in each st around.	42
13	Sc in each st around.	42
14	Sc in each st around.	42

PAUSE BEFORE DECREASING

At this point, leave the working loop secure and the head opening accessible. Crochet and sew on the black crown patch, positioning its lower edge just above Taro's left-eye placement. Then install both eyes between Head Rnds 10-11 as shown in the placement map. Both eye posts pass through the white head fabric only.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
15	(Sc in next 5 sts, dec) 6 times.	36
16	(Sc in next 4 sts, dec) 6 times.	30
17	(Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times.	24
18	(Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times.	18
19	(Sc in next st, dec) 6 times.	12
20	Dec 6 times.	6

Stuff the head firmly but do not stretch the stitches. Add small pieces of stuffing behind the cheeks and lower face to keep the front rounded. FO, leave a 15 cm / 6 in tail, and close the final 6-st opening through the front loops. Secure and bury the tail.

7. Complete Written Crochet Pattern - Face Pieces

B. Black crown/eye patch - make 1

Work flat in rows with black yarn. Ch 1 to turn; the turning chain does not count as a stitch.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	Ch 6. Sc in 2nd ch from hook and across.	5
2	Ch 1, turn. Inc, sc in next 3 sts, inc.	7
3	Ch 1, turn. Inc, sc in next 5 sts, inc.	9
4	Ch 1, turn. Inc, sc in next 7 sts, inc.	11
5	Ch 1, turn. Sc across.	11
6	Ch 1, turn. Sc across.	11
7	Ch 1, turn. Sc across.	11
8	Ch 1, turn. Dec, sc in next 7 sts, dec.	9
9	Ch 1, turn. Dec, sc in next 5 sts, dec.	7
10	Ch 1, turn. Dec, sc in next 3 sts, dec.	5

FO leaving a 45 cm / 18 in sewing tail. Do not stuff. Stretch the patch gently into an irregular oval/leaf shape before pinning. Rotate it slightly so it sweeps from the upper crown down to just above Taro's left eye, leaving white head fabric visible around the eye placement.

C. Muzzle - make 1 in pink

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	Ch 6. Sc in 2nd ch from hook and next 3 ch; 3 sc in last ch. Rotate to work along the unused loops of the foundation chain; sc in next 3 loops; 2 sc in the last loop.	12
2	Inc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, inc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 3 sts, inc in each of last 2 sts.	18
3	Sc in each st around.	18
4	Sc in each st around.	18

FO leaving a 40 cm / 16 in sewing tail. Add a small amount of stuffing only after the muzzle is mostly sewn to the face so that it stays softly rounded rather than domed.

D. Cheeks - make 2 in pink

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	6 sc in MR. Pull the ring closed.	6

FO leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Flatten each tiny circle; do not stuff.

7. Complete Written Crochet Pattern - Ears and Horns

E. Outer ears - make 2 in black

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	Ch 6. Sc in 2nd ch from hook and next 3 ch; 3 sc in last ch. Rotate; sc in next 3 unused loops; 2 sc in last loop.	12
2	Inc in next st, sc in next 3 sts, inc in each of next 3 sts, sc in next 3 sts, inc in each of last 2 sts.	18
3	Sc in each st around.	18

FO leaving a 35 cm / 14 in tail for attaching the ear to the head. Do not stuff. Flatten into a horizontal oval.

F. Inner-ear inserts - make 2 in pink

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	Ch 5. Sc in 2nd ch from hook and next 2 ch; 3 sc in last ch. Rotate; sc in next 2 unused loops; 2 sc in last loop.	10
2	Sc in each st around.	10

FO leaving a 25 cm / 10 in sewing tail. Sew one pink insert to the centre of each black ear, leaving an even black border. Do not sew through the final ear-attachment tail.

G. Horns - make 2 in beige/tan

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	4 sc in MR.	4
2	Sc in each st around.	4
3	(Sc in next st, inc in next st) 2 times.	6
4	Sc in each st around.	6
5	(Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 2 times.	8
6	Sc in each st around.	8
7	Sc in each st around.	8

FO leaving a 30 cm / 12 in tail. Add only a narrow roll of stuffing. Keep the base slightly open and flat enough to sew neatly to the crown.

7. Complete Written Crochet Pattern - Body and Spots

H. Body - make 1 in white

Work from the base upward in continuous spiral rounds. Keep BOR at centre back. The body should be pear-shaped: widest in the lower half and narrower at the neck.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	6 sc in MR.	6
2	Inc in each st around.	12
3	(Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times.	18
4	(Sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	24
5	(Sc in next 3 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	30
6	(Sc in next 4 sts, inc in next st) 6 times.	36
7	Sc in each st around.	36
8	Sc in each st around.	36
9	Sc in each st around.	36
10	(Sc in next 4 sts, dec) 6 times.	30
11	Sc in each st around.	30
12	Sc in each st around.	30
13	(Sc in next 3 sts, dec) 6 times.	24
14	Sc in each st around.	24
15	Sc in each st around.	24
16	(Sc in next 2 sts, dec) 6 times.	18
17	(Sc in next st, dec) 6 times.	12
18	Dec 6 times.	6

Begin firm stuffing after Rnd 13. Pack the lower body evenly, then add smaller pieces toward the neck. Before closing, press the Rnd 1-4 area gently against a flat surface to create a stable seated base. FO and close the final 6-st opening.

I. Body spots - make 2 in black

Large spot:

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	6 sc in MR.	6
2	Inc in each st around.	12
3	(Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times.	18

FO leaving a 35 cm / 14 in tail. Flatten and gently stretch into an oval while sewing.

Medium spot:

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	6 sc in MR.	6
2	Inc in each st around.	12

FO leaving a 30 cm / 12 in tail. Flatten. The two body spots are intentionally different sizes so Taro does not look perfectly mirrored.

7. Complete Written Crochet Pattern - Arms and Legs

J. Arms - make 2

Begin with white for the hand/forearm, then change to black for the short shoulder section.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	With white, 6 sc in MR.	6
2	Inc in each st around.	12
3	Sc in each st around.	12
4	Sc in each st around.	12
5	(Sc in next st, dec) 4 times.	8
6	Sc in each st around.	8
7	Change to black. Sc in each st around.	8
8	Sc in each st around.	8

Stuff the white hand/forearm lightly. Add only a pinch of stuffing to the black shoulder so the arm remains flexible. FO leaving a 35 cm / 14 in sewing tail. Keep the 8-st opening unclosed for attachment.

K. Legs / hooves - make 2

Begin with black for the rounded hoof, then change to white for the upper leg.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	With black, 6 sc in MR.	6
2	Inc in each st around.	12
3	(Sc in next st, inc in next st) 6 times.	18
4	Sc in each st around.	18
5	Sc in each st around.	18
6	Change to white. Sc in each st around.	18
7	(Sc in next st, dec) 6 times.	12
8	Sc in each st around.	12
9	Sc in each st around.	12
10	Sc in each st around.	12

Stuff the black hoof firmly enough to keep a rounded front. Stuff the white leg moderately, leaving the top 1 cm / 3/8 in softer for sewing. FO leaving a 40 cm / 16 in tail. Keep the 12-st opening unclosed.

7. Complete Written Crochet Pattern - Tail

L. Tail stem - make 1 in white

Before making the MR, leave a 35 cm / 14 in starting tail. This starting tail will later sew the tail base to the body.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	6 sc in MR.	6
2	Sc in each st around.	6
3	Sc in each st around.	6
4	Sc in each st around.	6
5	Sc in each st around.	6
6	Sc in each st around.	6
7	Sc in each st around.	6
8	Sc in each st around.	6

FO after Rnd 8, leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail for joining the black tail tip. Leave the white stem unstuffed. Keep the Rnd 8 opening unclosed. Roll the stem gently between your fingers so it reads as a narrow cord.

M. Tail tip - make 1 in black

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Sts
1	6 sc in MR.	6
2	Inc in each st around.	12
3	Sc in each st around.	12
4	Dec 6 times.	6

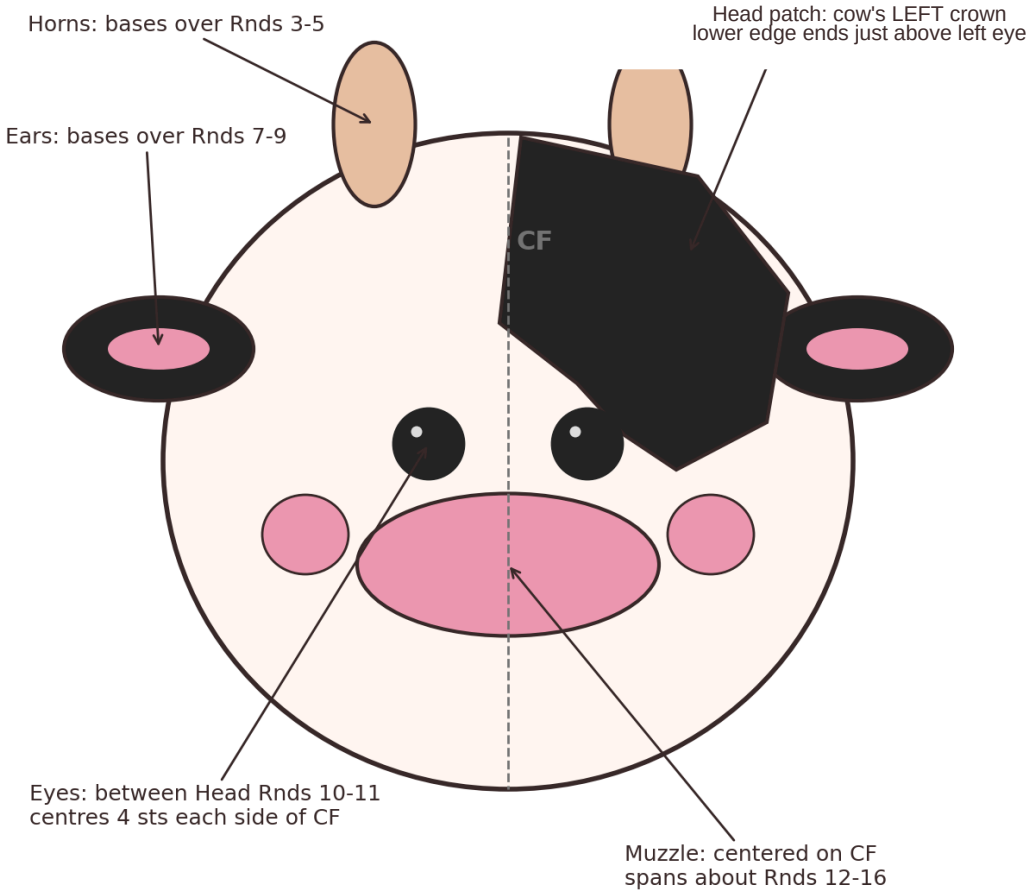
Add a small pinch of stuffing. FO leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail and keep the 6-st opening unclosed. Match this 6-st opening to the 6-st Rnd 8 opening of the white tail stem and sew the two openings together stitch-for-stitch. Keep the black tip round rather than flat.

8. Colour Changes and Surface Details

- Arms: white through Rnd 6; black for Rnds 7-8.
- Legs: black through Rnd 5; white from Rnd 6 onward.
- Head patch and body spots are separate black pieces rather than in-round colourwork. This keeps the shaping beginner-friendly and lets you adjust the patch edges during pinning.
- For the black head patch, slightly stagger the sewn edge instead of forcing a perfectly geometric border. The reference look is soft and organic.
- Nostrils: embroider two short vertical black lines on the pink muzzle, about 2.5-3 cm / 1-1.2 in apart.
- Eyebrow: embroider one short curved black line above Taro's right eye only, about 1.5-2 cm / 0.6-0.8 in long. This intentional asymmetry matches the character styling.
- Mouth: no separate mouth line is required. If desired, add one tiny 1 cm / 3/8 in smile directly below the muzzle centre.

9. Placement Maps - Head and Face

HEAD & FACE PLACEMENT MAP - FRONT VIEW



Placement coordinates use the head BOR at centre back. CF is the stitch directly opposite BOR. Count left and right from CF along the same round; do not make additional calculations.

Feature	Placement
Eyes	Between Head Rnds 10-11; eye centres 4 sts to each side of CF, about 8 sts centre-to-centre.
Muzzle	Centre on CF; top edge around Rnd 12, lower edge around Rnd 16. Pin before sewing.
Cheeks	Centred around Head Rnd 13, approximately 5 sts to each side of CF; inner edge close to muzzle.
Nostrils	Two short vertical lines on muzzle, evenly spaced around muzzle centre.
Eyebrow	One curved line above Taro's right eye, about one round above the eye opening.
Head patch	Taro's left crown; upper edge begins near Rnds 2-5 and the lower point ends near Rnd 10, immediately above the left-eye placement without crossing the eye centre.

9. Placement Maps - Ears, Horns and Crown Patch

Crown Orientation

With the finished head facing you, BOR is at the back and CF is centred between the eyes and muzzle. Taro's left appears on your right.

Feature	Round range / position	Angle and visual check
Black crown patch	Upper portion spans approx. Head Rnds 2-7; lower point ends near Rnd 10, just above Taro's left eye.	Rotate the flat patch about 20-30 degrees so it sweeps diagonally from crown toward the left eye. Keep white head fabric visible at the eye placement. Sew flat before installing eyes.
Horns	Bases centred over Head Rnds 3-5; bases about 7-8 sts apart across crown.	Keep both vertical with a very slight outward tilt. Check from front and back before sewing.
Ears	Bases lie across Head Rnds 7-9 at the side quadrants, roughly 10-12 sts to either side of CF.	Pink inserts face slightly forward. Angle ears 10-15 degrees upward rather than perfectly horizontal.
Left safety eye	Between Rnds 10-11.	Eye post passes through white head fabric only; the black patch ends immediately above the eye area.
Right safety eye	Between Rnds 10-11.	Eye post passes through white head fabric only.

PINNING CHECK

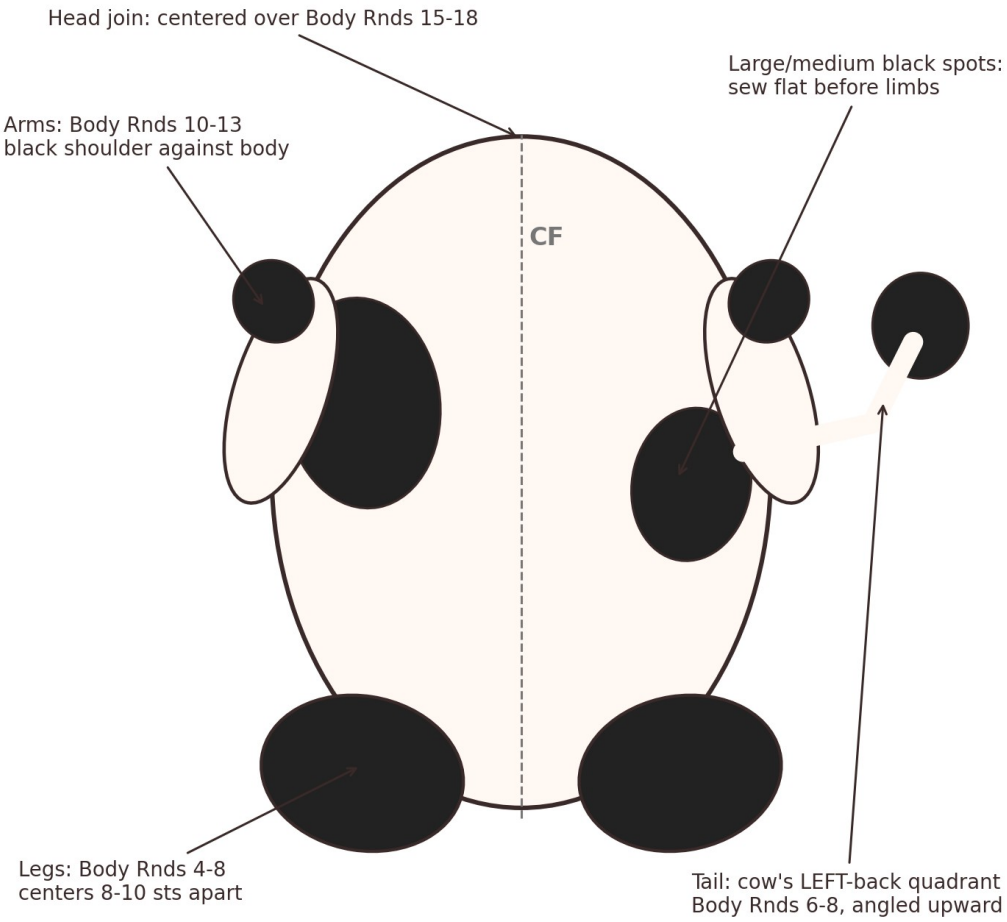
Before attaching horns or ears, place the head on a flat surface facing forward. Check that the horn tips rise to approximately the same height and the ear tips extend a similar distance from the head. Small differences can be corrected by moving the base 1 stitch or 1 round.

Embroidered-eye alternative

Instead of safety eyes, use smooth black yarn to satin-stitch two oval eyes over the same placement points. Build each eye gradually with 5-7 parallel passes, secure the yarn inside the head, and bury the tail before the head is closed.

9. Placement Maps - Body Attachments

BODY ATTACHMENT MAP - FRONT / LEFT-BACK ORIENTATION



The body is worked from the bottom upward. BOR is at centre back; CF is the opposite side. Pin all attachments after the body is fully stuffed so the final shape, round spacing and seated balance are visible.

Feature	Placement
Head	Centred over Body Rnds 15-18. Match head CF to body CF and align the head BOR with the body BOR at centre back.
Legs	Open tops against Body Rnds 4-8 on the lower front. Leg centres 8-10 sts apart. Toes/hooves angle slightly outward.
Arms	Black shoulder ends against Body Rnds 10-13 at the front-side quarters. White hands point inward and slightly downward.
Large body spot	Taro's right side, centred around Body Rnds 8-12. Shape into a broad oval while sewing.
Medium body spot	Taro's left/back side, centred around Body Rnds 7-10. Keep clear of the tail base.
Tail	Taro's left-back quadrant at Body Rnds 6-8. Angle the stem upward about 30-40 degrees and let the black tip remain free.

10. Stuffing and Shaping

Part	Stuffing level	Target shape
Head	Firmly stuffed without stretching stitches	Round/oval chibi head; cheeks and lower face softly full
Muzzle	Light	Soft oval projection, not a hard dome
Horns	Light	Tapered and upright; no bulges
Body	Firm	Pear-shaped with a flatter seated base
Arms	Light in white hand; very light in black shoulder	Flexible enough to angle inward
Legs	Firm black hoof; moderate white upper leg	Rounded hoof with soft attachment area
Tail stem	None	Narrow cord
Tail tip	Light	Small round puff
Ears / spots / cheeks	None	Flat

Stuffing technique

- Use many small pieces of fibre filling instead of one large wad. This reduces lumps and improves control.
- Push stuffing toward the outer edges of the head and body first, then fill the centre.
- At the last 2-3 rounds of a closing piece, use smaller pinches so the closure does not become overfilled or pointed.
- Do not overstuff the muzzle, arms, horns or tail tip. Their silhouette should remain soft.
- To keep the body base flat, press the stuffed body onto a flat surface and redistribute the lower stuffing before closing Rnd 18.
- If gaps appear between stitches, remove a small amount of stuffing before changing the crochet fabric.

Optional gentle face shaping

Needle sculpting is not required. If you want slightly deeper eye sockets, use a length of white yarn: enter at the lower back of the head, exit just under one eye, re-enter one stitch beside that point, return to the back, and pull only until a shallow indentation appears. Repeat once under the second eye, then secure and bury the yarn. Do not pull hard enough to distort the safety-eye posts or the black patch.

11. Assembly Instructions - Head and Body

1. Prepare the ears by centring one pink inner-ear insert on each black outer ear. Whip stitch around the pink edge with pink yarn. Keep the black border visible and even.
2. During Head Rnd 14, pin the black crown patch on Taro's left side. Rotate it diagonally so its upper edge lies near the crown and its lower point ends just above the left-eye position, leaving white head fabric visible at the eye placement. Sew the patch flat with small whip stitches through the patch edge and the head fabric only.
3. Install the safety eyes between Head Rnds 10-11, centres 4 sts to each side of CF. Confirm both eyes are level before locking the washers. Both eye posts should pass through the white head fabric only.
4. Finish Head Rnds 15-20, stuff firmly, close the final opening, and shape the head with your hands.
5. Pin the pink muzzle centred over CF, spanning about Head Rnds 12-16. Begin sewing around the edge. When only 2-3 cm / 1 in remains open, add a small amount of stuffing; finish the seam and keep the muzzle evenly oval.
6. Sew one pink cheek circle to each side of the muzzle around Head Rnd 13, with each cheek centre approximately 5 sts to its side of CF. Keep the cheeks level and equally spaced from the muzzle.
7. Embroider two black vertical nostrils on the muzzle and the single curved eyebrow above Taro's right eye. Secure all embroidery tails inside the head.
8. Pin the horns over Head Rnds 3-5, bases about 7-8 sts apart. Check from front and back, then sew around each base through both horn loops and the head fabric.
9. Pin the ears across Head Rnds 7-9 at the side quadrants. Pink inserts should face slightly forward. Tack each base at the top and bottom first, recheck symmetry, then complete the seam.
10. Stuff and close the body. Sew the large black spot to Taro's right side around Body Rnds 8-12 and the medium spot to the left/back side around Rnds 7-10. Shape the spots into soft irregular ovals while sewing.

11. Assembly Instructions - Final Assembly

1. Place the head on the body with head CF aligned to body CF and both BOR lines centred at the back. Pin at front, back and both sides before adding more pins around the join.
2. Sew the head to the body with a secure ladder/whip seam through the lower head fabric and Body Rnds 15-18. Tighten only enough to close the gap. Before the last few centimetres, add a small amount of stuffing into the neck area if the head feels unstable.
3. Pin both legs to the lower front over Body Rnds 4-8, centres 8-10 sts apart. Angle the black hooves slightly outward and check that the body can sit flat.
4. Sew each 12-st leg opening to the body through both loops of the leg opening and sturdy body stitches. Keep the white upper leg partially visible between the body and black hoof.
5. Pin both arms to Body Rnds 10-13 at the front-side quarters. Place the black shoulder ends against the body and aim the white hands inward/downward.
6. Sew each 8-st arm opening to the body. Do not pull so tightly that the black shoulder disappears into the body.
7. Match the 6-st opening of the black tail tip to the 6-st Rnd 8 opening of the white tail stem. Sew them together stitch-for-stitch and reinforce the join with a second pass.
8. Using the long starting tail from the tail-stem MR, pin that closed tail base to Taro's left-back body quadrant over Body Rnds 6-8. Angle it upward about 30-40 degrees. Sew the base securely, leaving the white stem flexible.
9. Stand or sit Taro on a flat surface. Compare the left and right leg heights, ear angles, horn heights and arm angles. Correct any noticeable tilt before final knots are buried.

FINAL BALANCE CHECK

If Taro tips backward, move the leg attachment points 1 round lower or shift the head seam slightly forward before fully securing. If Taro tips forward, shift the legs slightly forward/outward or redistribute stuffing toward the rear-lower body.

10. Secure all seams with 2-3 hidden passes through nearby stitches. Bury every yarn tail deep inside the stuffed pieces. Remove all markers and pins.

12. Sewing Methods

Join	Recommended method	How to sew
Flat patch to head/body	Small whip stitch	Bring the needle up just outside the patch edge, catch one edge loop of the patch and one small bite of the base fabric, then repeat. Keep stitches close and even.
Muzzle / 3D feature	Ladder or whip seam	Alternate between the edge of the muzzle and the head fabric. Tighten gradually after every few stitches so the seam closes without puckering.
Open limb to body	Through both loops + body stitch	Pass through both loops of the limb opening, then under a sturdy body stitch. Repeat around the opening. Keep tension firm but not crushing.
Horn or ear base	Whip stitch around base	Tack opposite sides first, confirm angle, then fill the remaining seam. For ears, catch only enough head fabric to avoid flattening the head.
Tail tip to stem	Opening-to-opening whip seam	Match the two 6-st openings stitch-for-stitch. Make one full pass around the join, then a second reinforcing pass through alternating stitches.
Head to body	Ladder/whip hybrid	Alternate between lower head and upper body stitches. Add neck stuffing before the seam is fully closed if needed.

Working with plush chenille yarn

- Chenille can shed when repeatedly pulled through tight fabric. Use a smooth tapestry needle and avoid unnecessary unsewing.
- Do not rely on a single knot at the fabric surface. Weave each tail through several internal stitches, change direction, then bury it inside the stuffing.
- If a sewing tail breaks, join a fresh matching yarn at a hidden point and continue rather than pulling on damaged fibres.
- Keep seam tension even. Over-tightening can compress the plush loops and make a visible groove.

13. Final Visual Checklist

- Face is centred and balanced when viewed straight on.
- Both eyes are level and approximately 8 stitches centre-to-centre.
- Muzzle is centred on CF and sits evenly below the eyes.
- Nostrils are parallel and evenly spaced on the muzzle.
- Single eyebrow sits above Taro's right eye and does not touch the safety eye.
- Black crown patch sits on Taro's left crown, ends just above the left eye, and leaves white head fabric visible around both eyes.
- Horn bases are level and horn tips rise to similar heights.
- Ear inserts face forward and both ears have similar upward angles.
- Head is centred over the body and does not lean noticeably to one side.
- Black body spots are asymmetrical but visually balanced.
- Arms sit at matching heights and white hands point inward/downward.
- Legs are attached at matching heights; black hooves face forward with a slight outward angle.
- Taro sits without needing to be propped up.
- Tail begins on the left-back body quadrant and points upward before the black tip.
- No stuffing shows through large gaps in the fabric.
- No seams are loose and no rigid eye washers are exposed.
- All yarn tails, markers and pins have been removed or buried.

REFERENCE SILHOUETTE

The intended finished look is a seated chibi cow with a head noticeably larger than the body, low rounded legs/hooves, small inward-facing arms, broad horizontal ears, short horns and a thin upturned tail with a round black tip.

Photographing or listing your finished handmade Taro

For a clear product photo, sit Taro on a flat neutral surface and photograph at eye level. A front view should show both ears, both horns, the full muzzle and both hooves. A three-quarter view should show the left-side tail and the side body spots.

14. Troubleshooting

Problem	Practical fix
Stuffing shows through stitches	Remove a little stuffing, tighten tension, or use a slightly smaller hook on the next piece.
Finished Taro is too large or too small	Keep the same pattern counts but change hook size/yarn thickness. Recheck gauge before remaking major pieces.
Spiral rounds twist or BOR drifts	Count every round and move the marker immediately after the first stitch. A small natural spiral shift is normal.
Colour-change step is visible	Complete the final yarn-over of the last stitch with the new colour and keep the change on a less visible side.
Eyes are uneven	Do not lock washers until both eye posts are inserted and checked from front, top and side.
Muzzle is off-centre	Remove only the first few sewing stitches, re-pin with its centre aligned to CF, then resume.
Head leans to one side	Open a small section of the neck seam, add or remove stuffing, and resew with CF/BOR alignment checked.
One limb is higher than the other	Move the higher attachment by 1 round or 1-2 stitches before fully securing.
One ear or horn sits higher	Unpick the base seam on that feature only, move the base by 1 round, re-pin and resew.
Tail points in the wrong direction	Re-pin the base with the stem angled upward 30-40 degrees before completing the seam.
Gaps appear around sewn pieces	Add a second, smaller sewing pass that catches adjacent base stitches without over-tightening.
Attachment feels loose	Reinforce the join with another full round of sewing and bury the new tail in a different direction.
Body base becomes rounded	Redistribute lower stuffing and press the body on a flat surface before the final body closure.
Visible holes after decreases	Use invisible decreases through front loops only and avoid overstuffing immediately behind the decrease area.

15. Printing and Customer Notes

- This is a DIGITAL DOWNLOAD crochet pattern only. No physical item will be shipped.
- Pattern terminology: standard US crochet terminology.
- Recommended printing: US Letter or A4, portrait orientation. Print at 100% / Actual Size for the clearest text and diagrams. The pattern does not require exact-size templates.
- Finished measurements are calculated design targets and may vary with yarn, hook size, tension, stuffing and technique.
- No physical prototype or test crochet was used in creating this digital pattern.
- You may use this pattern for personal handmade projects and may sell finished items that you personally crochet in small quantities.
- The pattern document, written instructions, diagrams and layout may not be redistributed, resold, copied, translated, uploaded, shared, or republished in whole or in part without permission.
- When selling finished handmade items, describe them as handmade by you. Do not include or distribute copies of this pattern with the finished item.

THANK YOU
Enjoy crocheting Taro the Cow. Take time to pin every feature before sewing - small placement adjustments make the biggest difference in a chibi face and seated pose.

Quick Reference

Piece	Final / widest count	Key note
Head	42 sts widest	Install patch + eyes after Rnd 14
Body	36 sts widest	Work bottom-up; flatten base before closing
Muzzle	18 sts	Light stuffing
Outer ears	18 sts each	Flat; add pink insert
Horns	8 sts at base	Light stuffing
Arms	12 -> 8 sts	White then black shoulder
Legs	18 -> 12 sts	Black hoof then white leg
Tail stem	6 sts	Unstuffed
Tail tip	12 sts widest	Light stuffing